The Lighting Demonstration Project

eeBuildings

Why Do a Demonstration Project?

Beginning with a demonstration project for lighting upgrades helps to ensure long-term success by allowing you to:

Become familiar with the technology. Learn how the new equipment affects light levels. Make sure you are happy with the color temperature. Verify that there are not technical or quality issues.

Educate occupants. Occupants in areas that will have future upgrades can experience how more efficient lights can maintain or improve quality. Soliciting feedback and addressing their concerns makes them part of the process, minimizing future complaints.

Verify savings. When possible, meter the demonstration area to prove to yourself and others that the savings are real.

Allow for changes. Taking a small step before a big step reduces risks and concerns about introducing a new technology into a facility.

Choosing the Right Demonstration Space.

The ideal demonstration space has the following characteristics:

Willing occupants. The occupants should understand the nature of the change in the lights and understand that more-efficient lighting does not mean dimmer or lower quality lighting.

Easily accessible. The demonstration space should be in an area where others can view the change without disturbing occupants.

Easily upgradable. The first demonstration space should not be the most technically challenging. Common areas and open offices with relatively low ceilings, where lamps and ballasts are replaced on a one-to-one basis, are normally the easiest to upgrade.

Easily verifiable. When lights are on a single circuit without other loads, the savings can be most easily verified. However, it is not always possible to have the lighting load isolated.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has provided this document through eeBuildings. The goal of eeBuildings is to help owners and managers of office buildings profitably improve their energy efficiency and thereby reduce atmospheric emissions associated with the generation of electricity. ICF Consulting assists EPA in implementing eeBuildings.

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